G. R. S. IX-5]

Previous references

File No. 1—20

1920-21

(Medical)

Serial Nos. 1—6.

Later references.

Preserved

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT.

Serial Nos. 6

Part B for ✓ Augt. 1920.

SUBJECT.

Complaint against Mrs Isaac, Asst Surgeon.

Sl 6 — To the offg Senior Surgeon, No C. 3649 of 14.8.20 —

Request him to convey a warning to Mrs Isaac for her carelessness about the contradictory statements in regard to the admission of a patient to the Maternity Hospital, Bangalore, in April last & states that Miss Govindarajulu also has made a similar mistake as regards the date

Vidali Khan
V/8/20

WD 788—GPB—5,000—7-11-19

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT.

( )

NOTES.

Med - File No. 1 of (Ens-11.

FILE HEADING.

Complaint against Mrs. Isaac, asst. Surgeon

From

The Senior Surgeon.

No. C. 1802 Dated 29th June 20 Received 30/6/20.

Diary No.	Enclos. / Spare Copies.	Serial No.

BRIEF ABSTRACT OF LETTER.

Recommending the reduction of Mrs. Isaac asst. Surgeon from to the minimum pay of the 2nd grade & to her being placed last in that grade on account of her indifferent attention towards a patient on 28/4/20.

NOTES AND ORDERS.

Chief Sec's orders on letter "asst Surgeon Med, please submit to Members." (Sd) CB. 30.6.20

2 Mrs. Isaac is now drawing Rs 170+30 (Sea allowance). The Senior Surgeon recommends her pay being reduced to Rs 120+30 (S.A) v Hale

NOTES—First Sheet.

G. R. & S. III-21

General and Revenue Secretariat.

Med File No. 1 of 1920

Serial No.

statement of his is based. It is possible that Mrs Isaacs is referring to the visit of the patient in the evening of the 29th when she was present when the patient was admitted to the hospital. However, the attention may be drawn to the discrepancy pointed out by the Senior Surgeon and the explanation obtained.

2/7

Asstry.
Memo put up Dr. 5.7.

Draft put up.
2/7.

Issue
2/7/20.

The Senior Surgeon.

2 No. 99 of 27 July 1920.
Requests him to draw the attention of Mrs. Isaac to the discrepancy pointed out obtain & forward her explanation with a clear statement of the Case

3 Letter No: C 1812-12 of 20.7.20 from the Senior Surgeon.

Forwards with his remarks a copy of Mrs Isaac's letter of 9.7.20 together with a copy

NOTE—Contn. sheet.

G. R. S. III-2.

1679

(5

General and Revenue Secretariat.

Med File No. 1 of 1920-21

Serial No.	
5	Letter no. C 1802/5 dt 28.7.20 from the offg Senior Surgeon forwards (1) a copy of letter dt 23.7.20 from Mrs Isaac Asst Surgeon re: details of her examn of the patient admitted to the Maternity Hospl, Bangalore & (2) copy of letter no. 19 dt 12.7.20 from the med officer in charge of the Mat: Hospl and states that in the circumstances reported a warning for carelessness is necessary in the case of Mrs Isaac.
	13) The connected main file was sent to 3d member on 26.7.20 with D. no. 1125. The present Commn may, if appd, be sent for orders in Continuation.
	Ahu 31.7.20. 3d member) — DCS 31/7/20.
	14) I agree with the views expressed. The latter may be asked to be careful & a warning given to the latter & to watch her work. Mrs Isaac a reputable lady has made a similar mistake as regards her d.ab.
	Ahu 8/8
	15) Draft please DCS 10/8/20
	16) Draft sent.
	17) Issue Ahu 11.8.20. DCS 11/8/20.

no. 648 26/7/20 (Continued)

8/8/20 Main file returned. 7/8

NOTE—Contn. sheet.

(6

G. R. S. III-2.

General and Revenue Secretariat.

Med File No. 1 of 1920

Serial No. 6

To The Sr Surgeon
No 3649 δ 14-8-20.
Request to Convey the warning
to Mrs Isaac in the matter
and watch her work for
some time.

B
14/8/20

NOTE—Contn. sheet.

Mrs. Isaac said that it might be a case of pregnancy and ovarian cyst. In the morning Miss. Govindarajulu prescribed a purgative and ordered the patient to be kept under observation in the Out-patients' department. The same day evening, the patient was again taken to the Hospital but was refused admission on the ground of its being a case of ovarian cyst and fit for admission to the Victoria Hospital. But later in the evening, the case was admitted after the husband of the patient had seen the Medical Officer and obtained a chit from her. On the 30th morning she was attended to and gave birth to twins (still born).

I called for information regarding the nature of the examination of the patient by the Assistant Surgeon on the 28th evening and the advice given by her to the patient or to the party that had accompanied the patient. I also asked the Lady Medical Officer to send for the husband of the patient, that I might find out the advice actually given in the case. I am informed that the husband of the patient is a Jamedar of the Taluk Police and as such, is not available for enquiry here. But when the Assistant Surgeon was asked to state the nature of the examination made by her, her reply, copy enclosed, is that she was not in the dispensary when the patient came on the 28th April in the evening and that she is not in a position to say what advice was given. But in her first explanation dated 6th May 1920, written in her own hand she has clearly stated that when the patient went to the Hospital on the evening of the 28th April, she saw her, as the Medical Officer was absent.

Now, this is a case in which, by merely applying the sthethoscope to the abdomen of the patient, even a midwife could search for and find out the heart beats of the child in the womb and could not possibly be mistaken by an Assistant Surgeon, if at all the latter properly examined the case. However, the mistake in diagnosis is not of so much of consequence in this case as the contradictory statements made by the Assistant Surgeon. For, in her first statement, dated 6th May 1920, she says "the patient in question visited the dispensary on the evening

(10

Letter No:337, dated 12-5-1920, from the Lady Medical Officer, Maternity Hospital, Bangalore, to the Senior Surgeon, Mysore Government, Bangalore.

****

With reference to your No:C.1802 dated 1st May 1920 I have the honor to state that I saw a patient in the dispensary, supposed to be suffering with six months' amenorrhoea and diagnosed by Mrs. Isaac, Assistant Surgeon, of Ovarian cyst and subsequently on my stating that there was a faint fetal heart, she said ovarian cyst and pregnancy. The abdomen was tense with fluid and I diagnosed Hydraminos and asked her to be kept under observation in the out-patient department dispensary and prescribed her a purgative. On the night of the 29th April, 1920, a man came to my house at 7-30 P.M. and said Patient Sunandamma supposed to be suffering from tumour and advised to the Victoria Hospital had been brought with slight pains and asked me what he was to do. I sent a chit to the Matron to admit patient at once and her attendant, as she was a Jain and frightened to be alone, having never been in a hospital before. I saw her in the morning as there were no urgent symptoms and I was not called up in the night. The cervix admitted a finger loosely and I could feel the bag of membranes pressing and tense. I ruptured the same with a stilette. About two buckets of fluid were discharged. Patient gave birth to twins of 6 months duration (still born), made a good recovery and was discharged. ********

From Mrs. Isaac, to the Medical Officer, Maternity Hospital.

"Regarding the enquiry of the Senior Surgeon, with reference to a case of twins, the patient in question visited the dispensary on the evening of 28-4-1920, and wanted to be examined by the M.O. As the M.O. was not in the dispensary then, I examined her and thought it may probably be a case of pregnancy with ovarian cyst and advised her to come again the next morning as the M.O. will be there, as she she insisted on being examined by the M.O. Accordingly she came the next morning and was examined by the M.O. who diagnosed it to be

(11

pregnancy with hydraminos and prescribed medicine for her. The patient in question, I was told, came again the same evening during my absence, as she had much pressure symptoms and was admitted by the Matron by the order of the M.O. The next day she delivered of twins (still born) in the Hospital, after the membranes were ruptured by the M. O. and plenty of fluid escaping.

6-5-1920 (Signed) M. R. Isaac,
Assistant Surgeon,
Maternity Hospital.

"With reference to the enquiry of the Senior Surgeon dated 14th-5-1920, as I was not in the dispensary on the 28th April, in the evening, when the patient in question came, I am not in a position to give the details of the examination nor the diagnosis nor the advice given to the patient then, but I was told that the Matron admitted her as an inpatient on the production of a chit from the Medical Officer.

15-5-1920. Yrs. obediently,
(Sd) M. R. Isaac.

"C o p y"

Senior Surgeon

Confidential.

(12

D. O. No. 99/Misl-20-2

Clear draft

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT,

Dated, Bangalore, 2nd July 1920

Dear Sir,

With reference to your predecessor's letter No.C.1802-7, dated the 29th June 1920 marked confidential, regarding the conduct of Mrs.Isaac in regard to a case of pregnancy admitted to the Maternity Hospital, Bangalore, in April last, I am desired to state that the facts of the case are not quite clear.

2. Dr.Miss Govindarajalu's report does not state when the patient was first brought to her. It is very probable that she saw her on the morning of the 29th April. If this is actually the case, it tallies with the first report of Mrs.Isaac.

3. Again, Miss Govindarajalu says she prescribed a purgative and asked the patient to be kept under observation. She means probably that she advised her to come to the Out-patients' Department for observation.. It is not known whether the patient followed the advice or not.

4. Dr.Arumugam states in the above communication that the same evening the patient was brought to the hospital and was refused admission, probably by Mrs.Isaac, but later on was admitted under the orders of Miss Govindarajalu. The papers now submitted do not show that Mrs.Isaac refused admission to the patient. The evidence upon which this statement is based is not clear. It is possible that in her second explanation Mrs.Isaac is referring to the visit of the patient on the evening of the 29th April when she says she was not present in the Dispensary when the patient came.

5. In these circumstances, I am to request you to be so good as to draw the attention of Mrs.Isaac to the discrepancy pointed out in your predecessor's letter dated the 29th June 1920, obtain her explanation and forward the same to Government with a clear statement of the facts of the case and your own opinion thereon.

Yours sincerely

To

C.A.Manianna Esq. I.M.S.

Anekal. Hence Dr. Arumugum was not able to fix the responsibility for refusing admission to the patient on any one.

As stated in the last but one paragraph of this office letter dated 29th June 1920, Mrs. Isaac had been asked to give the details of the examination to which the patient had been subjected on her first attendance at the Maternity, i.e., on the 26th April evening and the diagnosis and advice given. This point has not been answered. I have called for an answer and shall submit a further report on receipt of Mrs. Isaac's reply.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

Arumugum

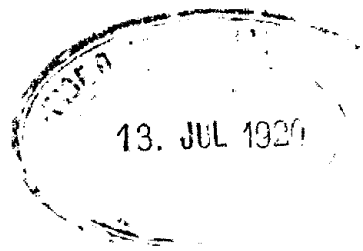
Offg. Senior Surgeon.

F.No. 15 / 10-7-20.

(15

To

The Medical Officer,
Maternity Hospital,
BANGALORE.



Dear Madam,

With reference to D.O.No.C.1802-9 from the Office of the Senior Surgeon, I beg to state that, after refering to the books, I find that in my explanation dated 6th May 1920, I have by mistake written that the patient in question visited the Dispensary on the evening of the 28th 4-1920 for the first time. It was on the 26th evening and not on the 28th evening that the patient first came and saw me and was examined by me but wanted to be examined by the M.O.

On the 27th morning she came and was examined by the M.O. and was prescribed a purgative.

On the 28th evening, when I was not in the Dispensary, I was told that she came with a chit from the M.O. to the Matron for admission and was accordingly admitted that evening.

I am,
Dear Madam,
Your most obedient servant,

M. Ratnamma Isaac

ASSISTANT MEDICAL OFFICER.

Bangalore.
9thJuly 1920.

G. K. S. VI—G/32]

SUBJECT.....

.....

.....

Diary No. of letter replied to.....195

Section Med
File No. 1-20
Serial No. 4

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT
( )
, *the* 191

No. G 1780

Date of issue..... 24/7

Signed by.....

To

The Senior Surgeon

Sir,

With reference to your letter No: C 1802-12 dt the 20th July 1920 furnishing a report in the matter of the explanation offered ~~refusal~~ by Mrs Isaac regarding a case of pregnancy admitted ~~into patient~~ in the Maternity Hospl, Bangalore, I am directed to request you to be so good as to forward the Copy of letter No: dt 12th July 1920 from the Medical Officer in Charge of the Hospital referred over.

to in your letter, the same not having been received therewith

I have &c

Secy
24/7/20.
For Chief Secy

Colonial Office
22.7.20.

List of enclosures.

Copied by

Examined by.

[WD 1744—GPB—80,000—19-3-19

No. C.1802-15
Encls. Nil

Office of the Senior Surgeon, Mysore Govt., (17)

Dated, Bangalore, 28.7 1920

1679

From

Rajakarya Pravina
C.A. Nanjappa Esq., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.
~~Rao Bahadur T. V. Arunuguna Mudaliar, Esq., M. B., C. M.~~
Offg. Senior Surgeon with the Government of
H. H. the Maharaja of Mysore, ~~Bangalore~~.

Confidential

To

The Chief Secretary to the Government of
H. H. the Maharaja of Mysore,
Bangalore.

Sir,

With reference to the last paragraph of my letter No. C.1802-12, dated 20th July 1920, I have the honor to forward herewith a copy of letter dated 23rd July 1920, from Mrs. Isaac, Assistant Surgeon, giving the details of her examination of the patient on the evening of the 26th April on the latter's first appearance at the Hospital. The result of the examination as stated in Mrs. Isaac's letter of 6th May 1920 was that she thought "it may probably be a case of pregnancy with ovarian cyst." In her present letter she says that she diagnosed it "to be a case of pregnancy with plenty of fluid somewhere, probably an ovarian cyst." There is, thus, some difference still, in the two statements. But this is a matter of diagnosis which, in the case of an inexperienced officer like Mrs. Isaac, is not of so much consequence, as already stated in this office letter dated 29th June 1920. The more serious charge, viz., contradiction in statements as to the patient having been seen by the Assistant Surgeon and then as having been not seen by her, has since been cleared by the fact that the mistake was due to carelessness about the dates, 28th having been put instead of 26th. Under the circumstances, a warning for carelessness is very necessary, Mrs. Isaac being a new hand and a woman officer. Copy of the Medical Officer's letter No. 19, dated 12-7-1920 is also enclosed.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

Offg. Senior Surgeon

From

The Senior Surgeon,

Mysore Govt., Bangalore.

To

The Chief Secretary
to the Govt. of Mysore,
Deptt.,
Bangalore.

Date 28 7. 1920

No. & C. 4802 - 18

Encls. One

Subject.

Regarding the diagnosis
of a Case of Pregnancy
in the Bangalore Maternity
Hospital.

G. R. S. VI 4/32

SUBJECT .....

.....

.....

Diary No. of letter replied to..... .....

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT

( )

, the 191

Date of issue 14/8

Signature .....

Section Med

File No. 1 — 20

Serial No. 6.

No. 93649

To

The Offg Senior Surgeon

Sir,

With reference to the Correspondence ending with your letter No. C 1802-15 of the 28th July 1920, about the Contradictory Statements dated ~~Copy~~ of Mrs Isaac Asst Surgeon in regard to the admission of a patient to the Maternity Hospital, Bangalore I am directed to State that Govt agree with you in your opinion ~~that Mrs Isaac~~ as to the Glaring Carelessness of Mrs Isaac

I am directed to state that Govt. agree with you in ~~Expressing~~ the opinion that the apparent contradiction in the two statements made by Mrs. Isaac, Asst. Surgeon, Maternity Hospital, Bangalore, regarding her ~~having~~ Examination of a patient who sought admission to the Hospital in April last was due to a mistake in the entry of dates and that it is desirable to issue a warning to her for her carelessness in this behalf. I am accordingly

over.

20)

~~about the date on which she first saw and examined the patient~~ and to request you to (be so good as to) convey to her a warning in the matter and watch her work for some time.

I am to add that Miss Govindarajalu also has made a similar mistake ~~as~~ as regards the date.

I have &c

11/8/20.
For Chief Secy

11.8.20

List of enclosures.

Copied by

Examined by

WD 1744—GPB—80,000—19-3-19